[5th February 1924

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" Are we to understand that the grant of one lakh of rupees for flood relief in the last session is to form no part of the relief ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF KOLLENGODE :—" I want notice."

Forests.

Forest panchayats in Cuddapah district.

74 Q.—Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many forest panchayats are working in Cuddapah district ;

(b) whether any of them are working efficiently ; and

(c) how many reserved forests have been disafforested during the years 1922–23 and 1923–24 in the Cuddapah district ?

A.—(a) & (b) Forty-six forest panchayats were organized in the district till 30th September 1923 and of these 24 are reported to have been working well and three to be deserving of special mention.

(c) In 1922–23 one reserved forest measuring 3,390 acres and portions of three reserved forests measuring 232·95 acres and in 1923–24 portion of a reserved forest measuring 72·50 acres were disafforested in the district.

Government Press.

The staff of the Government Press.

75 Q.—Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(1) whether the Government Press employees are overworked and whether the Surgeon of the First District has remarked that most of the employees are anæmic ;

(2) whether the Superintendent, Government Press, Madras, is granting leave without pay to employees of long service when they are unable to attend the office in times of epidemic, such as influenza, when they are eligible for other kinds of leave ;

(3) whether the Superintendent, Government Press, is withholding increments and promotions from those who are obliged to take leave owing to illness ;

(4) whether the Government have received memorials to the effect that, in view of the fact that reorganization has not taken place for the last thirty years, the present revised scale is most unsatisfactory, and that the present revision makes no distinction between skilled and unskilled labour, etc. ;

(5) if so, how many such have been received and what are the orders passed in each case ;

(6) whether the present revised scale is far below that existing in other Government Presses, and if so, whether the Government would consider the advisability of introducing uniform scales ;

(7) whether the Government have sanctioned the scheme of amalgamation of stationery and printing offices in view of economy, and if so why it has not been given effect to ;